



## Iowa Status

common; native

## Iowa Range

northern two-thirds of Iowa

## Bibliography

Iowa Department of Natural Resources. 2001.  
*Biodiversity of Iowa: Aquatic Habitats* CD-ROM.

## blacknose dace

*Rhinichthys atratulus*

Kingdom:	Animalia
Division/Phylum:	Chordata - vertebrates
Class:	Osteichthyes
Order:	Cypriniformes
Family:	Cyprinidae

## Features

Like other native minnows, the blacknose dace has no scales on the head and the soft dorsal fin has fewer than 10 rays. Adults are up to four inches long. It is brownish to black above, light beneath, and the sides are speckled with dark scales. A dusky band along the side is bordered by a light row of scales above. The upper jaw extends past the lower jaw and a barbel (projection) is present on the posterior of the upper jaw. Spawning males have a pinkish band down the sides.

## Natural History

The blacknose dace is fairly common in central and northeastern Iowa with scattered populations in northwest Iowa. It eats aquatic insects and larvae. It spawns from May through July when males build a nest and defend it.

## Habitats

interior rivers and streams